Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 01866 160913Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----------160919Z 055255 /23-12
O 160825Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5269
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 1866

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: IS, LE, SY, PFOR

REF: TEL AVIV 1665

1. DATT MET WITH MG SHLOMO GAZIT, DIRECTOR OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, AND OTHER INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS ON MARCH 15. IN RESPONSE TO HIS QUERY, THEY REITERATED (REFTEL) THAT SYRIAN FORCES WERE LOCATED AT AR RAYHAN, SOME FOUR KILOMETERS NORTH OF AYSHIYAH. HOWEVER, THEY CALLED ATTENTION TO "UNCONFIRMED" REPORTS (SOME OF WHICH WE HAVE SEEN IN THE PRESS) THAT REGULAR SYRIAN FORCES UNDER VARIOUS DISGUISES WERE MUCH DEEPER INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON. GAZIT AND HIS STAFF STATED THAT IT WOULD BE A DIFFICULT PROBLEM TO VERIFY SUCH REPORTS AND EVEN MORE OF A PROBLEM FOR THE ISRAELIS TO DETERMINE HOW TO RESPOND TO THEM IF THEY PROVED TRUE.

2. COMMENT: THAT THE ISRAELI MILITARY INTELLIGENCE STAFF IS STANDING BY ITS POSITION THAT REGULAR SYRIAN
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TEL AV 01866 160913Z

FORCES CAN ONLY BE IDENTIFIED IN A VILLAGE TWO AND A HALF MILES NORTH OF AYSHIYAH IS OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST, GIVEN EVRON'S CATEGORICAL STATEMENT TO US THAT THESE FORCES WERE STILL IN AYSHIYAH (REFTEL). THE CHARGE RAISED THIS APPARENT DISCREPANCY WITH EVRON AND GENERAL GUR ON MARCH 13. BOTH MENTIONED THAT THE INFORMATION EVRON HAD GIVEN US WAS CORRECT, SAYING

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

THEY HAD BEEN TOGETHER WHEN ALLON WAS BRIEFED ON THE SUBJECT. NOW WE NOTE THAT GENERAL GAZIT, AT LEAST, HAS REPEATED HIS EARLIER VIEW, WHICH LED TO THE CONFUSION. IF INDEED REGULAR SYRIAN FORCES MASQUERADING AS SAIQA OR WHATEVER HAVE PENETRATED DEEPER INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON THAN THE ISRAELIS WOULD LIKE WE MAY BE CLOSE TO ANOTHER CRISIS-AND-PRESSURE SITUATION. ANY FACTS AS TO THE POSITION OF THE REGULAR SYRIAN FORCES WHICH WE COULD PASS TO THE ISRAELIS MIGHT BE USEFUL IN HEADING OFF SUCH A SITUATION AND AVOIDING ANY MISUNDERSTANDING.
DUNNIGAN

SECRET

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TELAV01866
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770089-1062
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770352/aaaabtgp.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ddbc09b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 TEL AVIV 1665
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3086483
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN FORCES IN AYSHIYAH
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, PINS, PBOR, IS, LE, SY, (GAZIT, SHLOMO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ddbc09b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009